

daughter of the late J. Harvey Curry, of Dunmore, and lives on Douthard's Creek, near Driscol. Their family numbers seven daughters and two sons: Clara, now Mrs Henry Overholt; Docia, now Mrs Warren; Effie, Mrs J. E. Campbell, of Covington; Lizzie, Mrs Mack Ervine; Bertha, Lucy, and Pearl- Gilbert Sharp is at home, a well known machinist. Albert Sharp resides at Marlinton, where he is a well known citizen, and has performed an active part in the construction of improvements.

Thus far we have been able to illustrate to some extent the history of John Sharp, the settler. As was intimated, the great motive that prompted his coming to the head of Knapps Creek was to get land. In this he was successful. His landed possessions reached from the Gibson farm, near Frost, up the West Branch to Armnius Bussard's, near Glade Hill. He had property in the Hills, on Thorny Creek, and on Buffalo Mountain beyond Greenbank, and the most of these lands yet in the possession of his descendants.

He was small in person, blue eyes, light hair, and of florid complexion. He was constantly employed. Mrs Sharp was quiet in all her ways, very diligent in her duties, and patiently met and endured the toils and inconveniences of living in the woods. These persons were pious, and some of the first religious meetings ever held in the vicinity of Frost were at their house.

DAVID HANNAH.

This paper is prepared to pay a tribute to the memo-

ry of a pioneer citizen of our county, the late David Hannah, of the Old Field Branch of Elk. He was a son of David Hannah, Senior, who was the progenitor of the Hannah Family, one of the oldest in Pocahontas. David Hannah, Senior, was a native of Ireland. He married a Miss Gibson, who was reared in Augusta County, and settled at the mouth of Locust Creek soon after the Revolutionary war. He possessed some practical knowledge of medicine of the botanical school, and did a good deal of practice in frontier times. He was probably the first person that ever practiced physic in lower Pocahontas. Dr and Mrs Elizabeth Hannah were the parents of six daughters and four sons.

Ann became Mrs Joseph Oldham and Lucinda married William Oldham. Their homes were near the source of Locust Creek. Mary Hannah was married to John Mollohan, and lived in what is now Webster County. Elizabeth Hannah became Mrs William Bennett, and lived in Harrison County. Jennie Hannah was married to the late Samuel Whiting, on Droop Mountain, where the Whiting family now lives. Her son Ebenezer married Sallie McMillion and lived on the Whiting homestead. Nancy Hannah became the wife of James Cochran, and lived near the Greenbrier border.

William Hannah and John Hannah died in youth.

Joseph Hannah married Elizabeth Burnside, on Greenbrier River, and settled on Elk, where his son, John Hannah, lately lived, over eighty years of age.

David Hannah, Junior, the subject of this article, married Margaret Burnside, on the Greenbrier, east of

Hillsboro, a daughter of John Burnside and his wife, Mary Walker, of Augusta County. Her family and the family of General J. A. Walker, of Wytheville, Va., are closely related. He was one of the last commanders of the Stonewall Brigade. He settled on Elk, and reared a large family of worthy sons and daughters.

Isabella Hannah was married to the late John Varner, and settled at Split Rock, a few miles down Elk, and built up a good home with their industry and economy. Their children were Margaret, now Mrs Clinton Slanker; David Varner, a Confederate soldier killed in war; Mary Varner, afterwards Mrs Robert Wilson, and lived near Lexington, Va. John Varner and Samuel Varner, at Linwood; Susan Varner, now Mrs William Snyder, in Iowa; William Varner, at Old Field branch; Alice Varner became Mrs John Stewart, near Valley Head; Jennie Varner was married to Hamilton Snyder, and located in Taylor County, Iowa; Benjamin Varner married Ella Moore, of Knapps Creek, lived awhile at the Split Rock homestead, and finally moved to Ohio where he now resides.

Elizabeth Hannah was married to Marinus J. VanReenan, and settled in Iowa. Mr VanReenan was a native of Holland, His father's family was attached to a band of Holland emigrants, who were induced to colonize on Laurel Run in 1842, by the Rev John Schemerhorn, of New York. The highlands of Pocahontas were not congenial to persons from a populous Holland city in the Netherlands, and after grievous privations the colony disbanded. Some went west; others remained in Pocahontas, and are excellent people. The Stultings came in this band also. The names

of Elizabeth VanReenan's children are David, Robert, and Mary.

John Burnsides Hannah married Margaret McClure, and located on part of the "Old Field" homestead, and has lately died. The following particulars are given in reference to their children: Mary is now Mrs John Beverage, near Clover Lick; Samuel David married Amanda Moore, and settled on the Hogsett place; Wallace died while young; William Boude, whose wife was Miss Birdie Dilley; John Ellis married Malinda Catherine Sharp, and settled on the homestead; Nancy was married to Fletcher Dilley, and lives near West Union; Ivie Viola; Edgar Russell, and Lena Mary died while young.

David Hannah, the third of the ancestral name, was first married to Rebecca Moore, daughter of the late Isaac Moore, of Edray. Second marriage to Margaret Jane McClure, daughter of Arthur McClure of Lower Pocahontas, and settled in Iowa; thence moved to Missouri. The names of his children were James, Joseph, Mary, Margaret, and Julia.

Robert Hannah married Jennie Burk and settled in Iowa. John is the name of the only one of his children known to the writer.

William Hannah, one of the twins born to Mr and Mrs David Hannah of Pioneer memory, married Catherine Rhinehart of Randolph County, and settled on Pine Flat, head of Swago. William's family were three sons and a daughter. James married Maggie Auldridge, a daughter of Thomas Auldridge, and lives near the head of Dry Creek. Eugenius married Jennie

Kellison, and lives near Poage's Lane. Margaret is Mrs Kenny Kinnison, on Swago. Burleigh married Miss Lula Perry, on the Greenbrier.

Joseph Hannah, the other twin son of the pioneer, married Elizabeth Cool, daughter of John Cool, of Webster County and lives in that county.

The writer remembers the personality of the venerable pioneer very vividly. In early youth I saw him frequently, and he was very interesting to me from the fact Mr Hanna had been off to the war of 1812. To me an old soldier seemed more than human. He had an interesting way of relating his adventures, and was fond of talking about the war. He was at his best when telling how he felt when aroused one morning before day to get ready for an attack, as the British were reported as coming. He arose and put on his accoutrements quickly as possible, and took his place in the ranks and moved off to fight. His hat kept falling off as he marched until it became so troublesome that he was determined to find out the reason why it would not stay on his head. It had never been so hard to keep on before because it was a good fit. When the troops halted he examined his head and found the hairs were all on end, stiff as bristles, and were pushing the hat off as fast as he could put it on. The hair kept stiff until the order was given to return to camp, when it all became limber enough, and the hat was no more trouble. He found out afterwards that the whole scheme was to try the new soldiers to find out how they would conduct themselves when ordered into battle. This was near Norfolk.

The story, however, he seemed the most fond of telling was about his experience in the hospital tent. Before his term of service had expired he was prostrated by fever and given up as a critical case, and very strict orders were given not to let him have a drop of anything cool to drink. He noticed that there was whiskey and water on the table for the nurse's use, and he determined to have some at all hazards. The attendant came to him and found the young soldier so weak and stupid that he seemed to know nothing, and was unable to lift even his hand. So the hospital man thought there would be no risk to run were he to leave the bottle and pitcher on the table while he would step out and get some fresh air. Soon as his back was turned the sick soldier crawled to the table, mixed the liquor and water, and drank till he could drink no more and crawled back to his bunk, and when the nurse returned he was surprised to find his patient apparently asleep and the skin showing a tendency to moisture. Finally the sweat broke, and when the doctor came to look at him, and seemed much pleased with the change in the patients condition.

“You were mighty near gone, old fellow, and if we had not kept cold water away from you, where would you be now?”

The soldier kept his secret, and as he was beginning to get stronger the liquor was kept out of sight. He thought he would have mended much more rapidly if things had been left on the table as before.

The old soldier worked hard in building up his home

and the privations he and his family had to endure would seem unbearable now. He was kind and hospitable to a fault, ready to share the last he had with the visitor that might desire shelter and food. He was much esteemed by all of his acquaintances.

Finally the end came. One of the prettiest places near his home was selected and they placed him to sleep under the green sod that his own hands had helped to clear away.

JOSEPH HANNAH.

Among the earliest settlers of the Elk region was Joseph Hannah, a son of David Hannah, who lived at the mouth of Locust Creek. He married Elizabeth Burnside and early in the century settled on the "Old Field Fork of Elk."

His home was on Mill Run near where William Hannah, a grandson, now lives. This immediate vicinity seems to have been a place of more than ordinary importance in prehistoric times. One of the most frequented Indian trails seems to have been from Clove, Lick up the Creek to the Thomas Spring; thence over the mountain, crossing at the notch near Clark Rider's farm; thence down by James Gibson's to Elk. Here is the "Magic Circle," mentioned elsewhere in this book. Nearly a mile further down was the encampment where about two acres of land had been denuded of trees for camp fires, and this was the "old field" that gave this branch of Elk its name; and was the first piece of ground planted by Joseph Hannah.